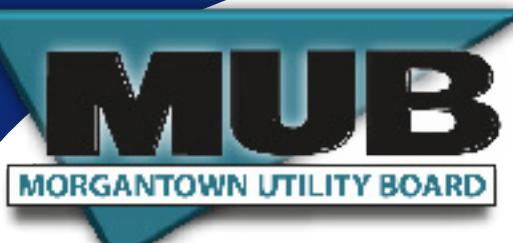


MUB **Connection**

The staff magazine of Morgantown Utility Board



Winter 2023

Anniversaries

Mike's Message

On being limitless

Notes from
the Board

News impacting **YOU!**

**Blast from
the past**
Star City WWTP

**The MUB
Family Grows!**
Birth announcements!

Filling the Flegal Dam and Reservoir!

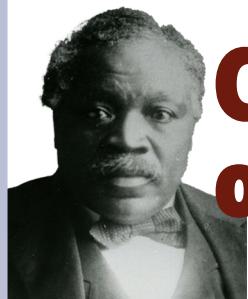
→ **+ Visits**

Saving Turtle Park

**Cobun
Water**

**Cobun
Sewer**

**Celebrating the life
of John Edwards**



**Holiday
Heroes**

Mike's Message

On being limitless

Our potential is limitless.

I say this because what we accomplish at MUB is nothing short of amazing. Think about it. What you do every day touches the lives of every one of our customers in multiple ways every single day. This is important to remember. What you do has profound impacts on the lives of everyone in our community.



Every. Single. Person.

Every. Single. Day.

Consider our water treatment plant staff. Every minute of every day this team manages the treatment process as well as monitoring our raw water sources and the actual system. Our lab crews test treated and raw water along with testing required for boil water advisories. The safety of the entire community rests on their shoulders; yet they carry this weight flawlessly. A great deal of gratitude is owed to this group of true community heroes.

“Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships.”

— Michael Jordan

And when it rains, Morgantown depends on our stormwater system to manage and convey billions of gallons of water. This requires a great deal of work given the legacy nature of the system. But through upgrades, replacements, and ingenious engineering, our stormwater program is a leader in the state. What this small team accomplishes is nothing short of extraordinary.

Speaking of engineering, I do owe a shoutout to this team. From the construction of water tanks, to boring under roads, freeways, and the river, it's simply amazing what the engineering team can do. Engineering is wrapping up two projects that comprise the single largest investment made by a publicly owned utility in the history of our state. They accomplished this during a worldwide pandemic and a major leadership change in the organization. Either one of these would have been enough to cause others to fail, but not this group. That's how good they are. Professionals through and through.

Meanwhile, in all types of weather, day and night, MUB crews respond to emergencies on lines and meters to ensure services remain available. In below zero weather, they work in water-filled pits amongst the mud and mire and ice and snow to repair lines and thaw meters. It's a brutal, nonstop job that's certainly not for everyone. We're extremely fortunate to have these guys as a part of our team.

Then, at the end of the system, we have our wastewater treatment plant team. This group has more than proven themselves competent in delivering world-class services. I am continually amazed by how they conducted themselves when I first arrived during COVID. Recall that early in the pandemic we knew that the virus could be shed in waste. What we didn't know is if the virus was transmissible from that waste or its pathology.

See Mike, Page 3

Mike, Continued from Page 2

Yet, during this time and during a major upgrade of the plant, the wastewater treatment plant staff never faltered. They faced this unknown danger head on. Sanitary sewer services remained available all through the pandemic and throughout the upgrade. If you want to see a group of hidden heroes, take a stroll down to Star City. You'll find plenty there.

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."

— Phil Jackson

Another part of our team that's easily overlooked is our office staff. They don't get a lot of accolades but without them we couldn't function. From accounting, bookkeeping, the geographic information system, and human resources to the information technology that keeps customer payments rolling, they keep us organized and on track for success. It's more than simply ensuring that our paychecks are deposited, that our benefits are processed, our retirement is tracked, our purchases are made, and that our vendors paid. This group ensures that we remain transparent across our operations. Just as others move earth, they move data through the essential processes that keep MUB running. These folks are the backbone of MUB.

An integral part of this group is a team that has what may be the most challenging of all jobs: Our customer service representatives (CSRs). They are at the frontline of our organization in terms of customer interaction. If there is an issue, our CSRs hear about it. Similarly, they help us spot trends and work with customers to identify issues that we can address. They are our eyes and ears.

Although less visible, our electricians, vehicle and small engine mechanics, and those folks that maintain our properties from mowing to changing lights and making repairs also substantially contribute to our mission. After all, the crews that respond to emergencies need their tools to work and their vehicles to run. They must be properly equipped, their safety ensured, and their personnel needs properly managed. Just another behind the scenes part of the team that are crucial to our success.

Please know that your leadership team and the board of directors are always looking for how we can improve your work environment. While we do unavoidably become mired in political, legal, and governance related matters, you remain our priority.

Never forget that MUB is not just some agency. MUB is an organized group of individuals dedicated to protecting public safety and the environment. MUB is you. You are MUB.

Together, our potential is limitless.

Mike McNulty
General Manager
Morgantown Utility Board

Keep your eyes out!

MUB's 2022 Consumer Confidence Report will be out within the next month. Keep your eyes out for the most recent report on our water quality!

See more on Page 31



Filling the Flegal Dam and Reservoir!

BIG NEWS!

As of this March 1 flyover, the water level is about 40' near the intake tower with a current approximate volume of 222,000,000 gallons. On March 2 we began the final filling stage of the reservoir. While we are close to the maximum depth, roughly a third of the volume remains to be added. Click the photo to view the March 1 drone flyover on YouTube!



**MORGANTOWN
CITY COUNCIL**

Rate hikes for water, sewer pass

Extra money to pay
for 2 MUB projects

PAPANDREAS says city stalls on
his FOIA request, [Page 2-A](#).

BY BEN CONLEY

The Dominion Post

Water and sewer rate increases for Morgantown Utility Board (MUB) customers cleared the final hurdle during Tuesday's regular meeting of Morgantown City Council and will take effect July 1.

Water rates will increase 33 percent while sewer rates will jump 87.5 percent.

A Look back--February 2, 2016

In February of 2016, Morgantown City Council passed rate increases to support the Star City Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, construction of the Flegal Dam and Reservoir, and other related projects. Read the article [by clicking here](#).

A July 2018 photo of the reservoir area during tree removal.



Celebrating the life of John Edwards

As we close out Black History Month, we offer this reprint of an article celebrating a gentleman who began one of the earliest water services in Morgantown. His name is John Edwards, a name you will hear mentioned in the months to come.

John Edwards: A man of motivation and courage

Born a slave in Danville, Virginia in 1839, John Edwards was the son of slaves Daner and Sofa Edwards. After traveling to Beverly, West Virginia with the Union Army, he moved to Morgantown at the age of 25.

Upon arriving in Morgantown he recognized that the residents of Morgantown faced a number of challenges in terms of obtaining clean water. Recall that at the time, there was no organized or city-wide sanitary or water system. Residents maintained private cisterns or simple pits for their outdoor privies as well as wells for their drinking water. Over time, sewage leached from these privies into water wells. The extent of this issue is made clear in a *Morgantown Weekly Post* article on May 16, 1885 following a vote in favor of developing Morgantown's first public water works (from [*The Story of Bringing Clean Water to Morgantown*](#) by Michael Caplinger and Barb Howe). The article states that....

Our people will hereafter take pure water from the bowels of the earth, in preference to impure drainage from the bowels of humanity – so to speak. . . .

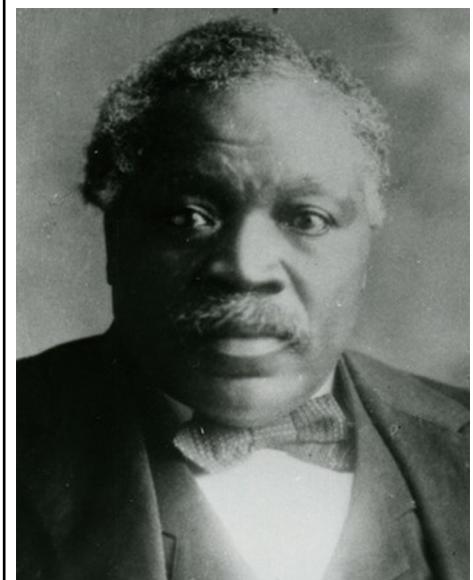
While residents may have alternatively collected rainwater in barrels, there was an issue with this as well. As the above-mentioned 1885 article also states, rain barrels were often contaminated as well...

“No danger of drinking nasty woolly water worms in Water Works water!”

“No more washing in ‘wiggle-tail water’ now. Step this way into our new bath room, please, you old fogey who voted against Water Works, and let us wash the moss off your back! Throw away that brick-bat that you use to hammer on the hoops of leaky old barrels at the approach of a rain storm.”

What the article is referencing is the fact that the rain barrels were breeding grounds for mosquito and other insect larvae. The “wiggle-tail” was the larvae moving about in the barrel along with insects.

Realizing the significance of this issue, in about May of 1865, Edwards established a water-hauling business in Morgantown. Edwards hauled water from Deckers Creek and the Monongahela River using [a mule-driven cart with the assistance of his children](#). He sold water from the Monongahela River for 10 cents a barrel and water from Deckers Creek for 15 cents a barrel.



John Edwards

1865 Marriage Certificate between John Edwards and Sarah Evans

Year	DATE	TOWN OR COUNTY.	HUSBAND.	WIFE.	HUSBAND.			WIFE.			SINGLE or WIDOWED.	
					Yrs.	Mos.	Days.	Yrs.	Mos.	Days.	Husband.	Wife.
1863												
1	April 27	Morgantown	John Edwards	Lucy D. Aspinwall	29		✓	21			single	single
2	May 9		John Edwards	Elin C. Stearns	25		✓	25		
3	" 13		John Edwards	Sarah Evans	25		✓	17		
4	" 11											

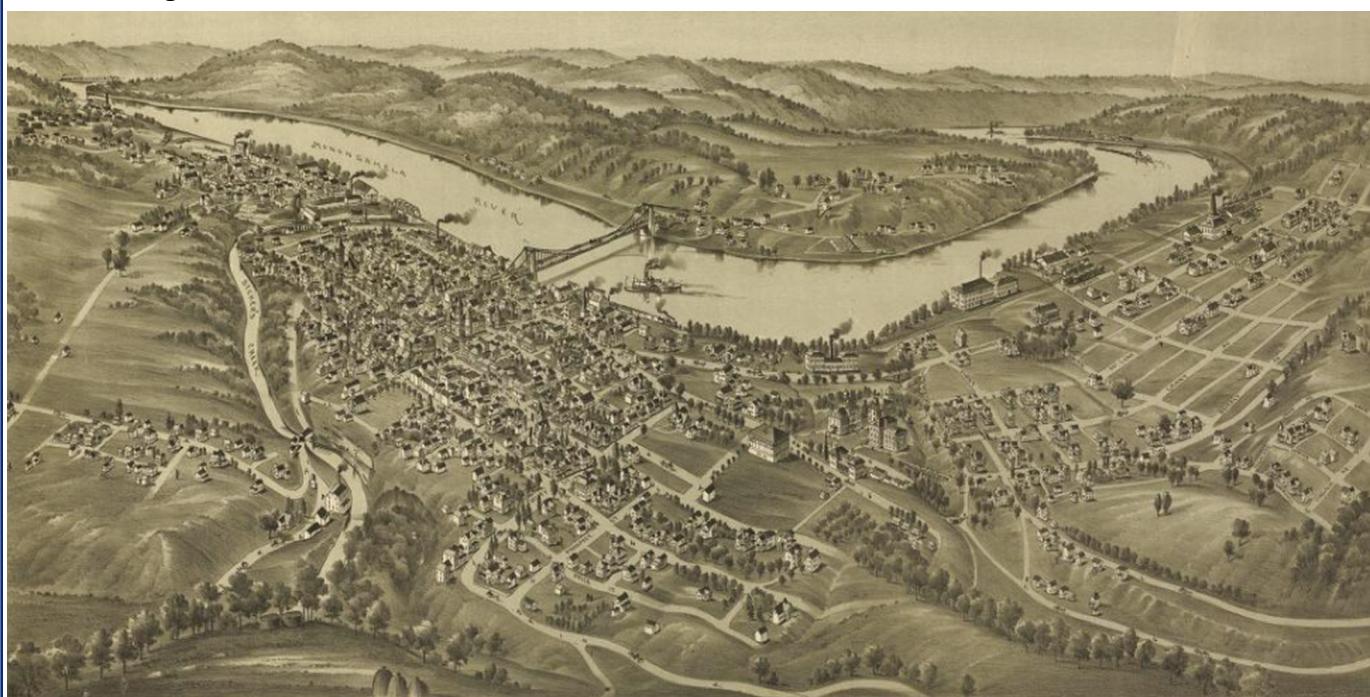
Also in May of 1865, [Edwards married](#) 17-year-old [Sarah Evans](#) from neighboring Preston County. In 1877 they purchased a piece of property in Morgantown along White Avenue that stretched to Deckers Creek. Edwards eventually built a house at what was then [79 White Avenue](#) (now 477 White Avenue). Unfortunately, the home was demolished in 1989.

John Edwards passed away in 1904. Sarah Edwards died in 1926. They are [buried together at Mount Union Cemetery](#) off of Point Marion Road. They had five sons and three daughters

An inspiration to us all

In today's world, it's difficult to fully appreciate the mettle of John Edwards. Here was a man that traveled from the Virginia-North Carolina border all the way to Morgantown. There were no safety nets on which he could depend. As a former slave, he had no assets. He came to Morgantown in search of the two things which he found: Freedom and opportunity. Here is a man that shook off the bounds of slavery and unimaginable racism to establish a successful business that spanned decades. Edwards is a man that had nothing on which to depend but his own grit and determination. Yet, he worked his way into the history of our area.

Curious as to what Morgantown was like during John Edwards lifetime? Click the map below to take a look around Morgantown in 1897.



Holiday Heroes

During the weekend of Christmas, temperatures plummeted to the single digits while windchills went well below zero. Most of us hunkered down inside, enjoying the holidays with friends and family. However, on Christmas Eve and Christmas night a host of MUB staff were called out to ensure water remained available for customers across our service area. Here's a shoutout to those MUB staffers who responded to the call for assistance no matter the temperature or time of day.



**Mississippi Street
First Ward
Christmas Eve**

Those who sacrificed their holidays to help others...

Roger Sanders
Logan Sanders
Pat Hawkins
Ricky Tenant
Junie Ault
Garrett Delaney
Jonathan Eavenson
Jerrad Richards



**Rawley Avenue and
Oakland Street
Suncrest
Christmas Night**

See Heroes, Page 9



During the extreme cold that gripped our area over the holidays, these four men were on scene 24-hours a day thawing and repairing meters throughout the county. Though they missed spending time with their loved ones, they ensured that well more than 100 area families had running water on Christmas Eve and Day. They are true community heroes! From left to right: Colton Coombs, Jason Tennant, Anthony Allman and Ed Dale.

Customer Testimonial

"You are my hero!"

The below customer input was provided in response to a post on a Facebook forum in which MUB crews were being praised. The customer commented on her appreciation for the hard work of our meter readers, specifically commenting on the assistance provided by [Jason Tennant](#).



Annie Hart 

Couldn't agree more! Saturday morning woke up to no water. (1° windchill) Called MUB. Within the hour, frozen meter replaced and wonderful water flowing!

*It might have even been Max on the job!

I waved thank you from the porch. 

I was so so appreciative

[Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) 3d



Jason Tennant

Annie Hart it was me that came to your call. I was more than glad to help.

[Like](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) 2d



Annie Hart 

Jason Tennant !!! You are my hero! Thanks a million for saving the day!
Really appreciate you!

Cobun Creek Sewer Interceptor Replacement

Phase I

Project Background and Description

The Cobun Creek Interceptor has been on the Capital Improvement Plan for years. Recently, this system has experienced numerous issues caused from both the manholes and portions of the line deteriorating. The line is also causing odor problems and backup issues at a neighboring business because of the line's condition. It was determined in 2023 that since new trails were being constructed in the area and the condition of the system will only worsen, that now is the time to replace it.

The project consists of replacing manholes and upgrading the 10" and 12" clay/steel gravity sewer pipe that was installed prior to 1987 (actual installation date is unknown). This line serves as the main conveyance for sanitary sewer from the Greenbag Road Area, the Cobun Creek pump station and the area of Mountaineer Mall.

Project Details

The work includes the replacement of the +/- 1000 feet of 10 and 12" clay/steel sanitary sewer pipe with 18" SDR-35 sanitary sewer pipe. The project will also include the replacement of eight brick manholes with pre-cast and coated manholes with bolt down lids to aid in odor control. The total cost of Phase I (there are two phases) is estimated at \$379,150, of which MUB is paying 100%.



To complete the work, we signed an agreement with the City of Morgantown. As part of this agreement, we will replace every tree removed. Also, we have contracted with Environmental Standards to provide a contaminated soil management plan as well as on site professional recommendations on how to deal with contaminated soil if encountered during the project.

Project Benefits

This project will remove a critical section of aged and deteriorated infrastructure while simultaneously providing additional capacity for future growth and improving the area for future trail construction.

Left: Max Farley cuts a new sanitary sewer pipe while Jerrad Richards stabilizes it. The two have been working in White Park daily since the project's onset.

See Cobun, Page 10

Cobun, Continued from Page 9



Max and Jerrad
lower a precast
manhole into
place

Left: Spending the day working in snow and mud is just another day for the majority of MUB staff. On the right, Pat Hawkins lifts and holds a section of pipe while Max ties the piping for movement to a trench. Click the photo for full size image.



In the above photograph are three pieces of heavy machinery being operated by Josh Dalton, Monty Savage, and Pat Hawkins. The hardhat visible in the trench to the right just off center is Jerrad Richards.

The above photograph is quite telling in that it shows the absolute professionalism of the operators. The manner in which they move these giant machines in an intricate ballet of steel and horsepower is startling. With surgeon like precision, mere inches from major utility pipes and sometimes beneath power lines, they excavate tons of dirt with shovels the size of vehicles. In the dark of the night, with lights flashing and generators roaring, they operate these pieces of machinery in such close proximity to men, vehicles and homes that it seems implausible that all could escape damage. Yet, project after project, they do the job without incident.

What makes it even more impressive is that they do it in all types of weather: Snow, nor rain, nor ice, nor mud slows them from the task at hand. That's how good these guys are at what they do. They're the best of the best and it shows from one project to another.

Did you know...

From the late 1800s to the 1970s, what is now White Park was an oil tank farm. The area housed dozens of large tanks that held raw oil prior to it being pumped to the east coast. The tanks occasionally leaked and were sometimes struck by lightning and burned. Because of this, portions of the park grounds have been found to be polluted by various contaminants. To protect staff and public health, MUB contracted with Environmental Standards to provide periodic soil sampling throughout the project. In the photo to the right, Staff Geoscientist Kelsey Morton takes a soil sample.



Josh Dalton operates an excavator during the Cobun sewer project.





Notes from the Board of Directors

Please note that the below does not include project related updates as those are provided elsewhere in this newsletter. Information on MUB's Board of Directors can be found at mub.org/about/leadership. Meeting agendas and approved/signed minutes can be found at <https://mub.org/newsroom/agenda-minutes>.

January - February 2023

Given the overlapping nature of so many issues, the information below is presented as a whole rather than per meeting. The actual minutes (when approved and signed) are available at the link provided above. Here are some of the highlights...

Annual stone contract was awarded to Greer Limestone Company in the amount of \$272,950.

Collins Ferry Road Sanitary Sewer Forced Main bid awarded to Snider and Sons LLC in the amount of \$43,000.

South Park No. 1 Water Storage Tank Painting bid was awarded to M&A Coatings, LLC in the amount of \$486,615.

Vacuum Truck Bid was awarded to FYDA Freightliner Pittsburgh in the amount of \$616,615.

City of Westover approached MUB to discuss the possibility of MUB acquiring their sewer and stormwater system. Both entities are in the information gathering stages to assess systems and collaborative possibilities.

Upper Popenoe Sanitary & Stream Restoration Project: Community meeting was well attended and EL Robinson and Allstar Ecology engaged the homeowners in good dialogue regarding the projects goals, outcomes, and the construction process needed to successfully complete this project.

Westridge – Chaplin Hill Development: The Monongalia County Commission has proposed a 1/3 cost share between the Monongalia County Commission, MUB and Westridge Developers. The total project cost is estimated at \$14,063,000 less the grants from WDA totaling \$3,000,000 leaves each entity contributing \$3,687,667. MUB has already committed \$3,590,000.

Flood Control Study: Ken Hacker reached out the WV Division of Highways and WVU to schedule the next Morgantown Watershed Collaboration Group meeting. Both groups have declined to participate.

Cheat Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Upgrades: Staff is finalizing our review of Strand Associates' completed Preliminary Engineering Report and they will have a presentation, for the Board and the community, at the March 14th Board Meeting at The Cranberry Hotel in Cheat Lake.

Water Treatment Plant Pump House Project: Strand Associates will give a presentation at the March 14th Board meeting. Staff has asked Strand Associates to expand the hydraulic modeling to include MUB's entire distribution system.

Board, Continued from Page 13

Long Term Control Plan Update: General Manager McNulty stated that Scott Sterns, P.E. with Strand Associates will provide an update on their progress during the March 14th Board meeting.

White Park Sewer Line Replacement Project: Joe McDonald, Superintendent of Maintenance & Construction and his Staff have made excellent progress.

PSC of WV Proposed Rule Changes: General Manager McNulty stated that the Public Service Commission of West Virginia proposed changes to the Water & Sewer Main Extension Rules have been issued and will become effective on March 27, 2023. The Commission rejected our suggestion that the Rules include factors to be considered when evaluating the denial of an alternate main extension agreement. Future complaints following a denial will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Commission.

MUB board member and city council member Dave Harshbarger thanked staff for working to address an odor issue at the Burroughs Run lift station. General Manager McNulty stated that we can have Strand Associates look at this facility to identify any improvements. (*See Turtle Park Repairs on page 28 for information and photos*)

At January's meeting, board member Erik Carlson thanked Joey McDonald and his staff on their quick work regarding and issue in the building where he works.

At the January meeting, Assistant City Manager Emily Mazzarelli provided the board of directors an update on several MUB-City collaborative projects.

March Board of Directors Meeting

MUB's March board meeting will be held at The Cranberry in Cheat Lake. The purpose of having the meeting at that location is to provide local residents the opportunity of hearing about the Cheat Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project and to receive their input.



Popenoe Run Project Public Meeting

On January 26th, MUB hosted a meeting at the Wiles Hill Community Center to discuss the Popenoe Run work with local property owners. The discussions were very frank and the sharing of information was excellent, with approximately 30 residents in attendance. E.L. Robinson Engineering and Allstar Ecology did a wonderful job providing an overview of the project and MUB's Mike McNulty and Ken Hacker provided outstanding professional support in answering questions. Such community outreach is an important part of building community trust. Click the photo to watch the meeting on YouTube.



Flegal Dam and Reservoir Visits

Even before completion, the reservoir garners considerable interest. From staff to the media to City officials, here's some of the those that have recently visited the reservoir.

Right: MUB Senior Engineer Cory Jones discusses the reservoir with MUB's Sam Hewitt, Amy Katicich, and Alli Martin. To see this and two other photos click the picture.



Left: Cory shares a laugh with WBOY-TV 12 reporter Makayla Schindler prior to an interview. Click the photo to watch the story. To view the photo itself, [click here](#).



See Visits, Page 20

Blast from the past

February 1965

In February 1965, representatives of Morgantown traveled to New York City to sign 447 sewer revenue bonds, each in the amount of \$5,000 for a total of \$2,335,000. The bonds were to construct the Star City sewer treatment plant and the interceptor sewer along the Monongahela River.

An interesting aspect of the signing was the use of a device known as a polygraph. Invented by Thomas Jefferson, the device allowed for the simultaneous signing of 23 documents. A February 3, 1965, Morgantown Post reported that the device, "[W]orks like this: The writer signs his name. At the same time other papers to be signed are in a row and the other prepared pins attached to the device at several points sign with the identical signature at the same time."

OFFICIALS GRATEFUL TO THOMAS JEFFERSON

City Sewer Bonds To Be Signed

If it hadn't been for Thomas Jefferson, the third president and an inventive genius, three Morgantown officials might return from New York City Friday with writer's cramp.

Mayor Arthur W. Buehler, City Manager Elmer W. Prince, and City Clerk James A. Ashburn leave for the metropolis

this afternoon. There at the A. E. Masten Co., the officials will sign 447 bonds in the amount of \$5,000 each totaling \$2,335,000 which is to be used in construction of the Monongahela River interceptor sewer and sewage treatment plant.

The way Jefferson's invention, a polygraph, works is like this: The writer signs his name. At

the same time other papers to be signed are in a row and other prepared pins attached to the device at several points sign with the identical signature at the same time.

Of course, the signing device at the bonding house will be much more modern than the one depicted in a history of Monticello, Jefferson's home.

The modern gadget, it is reported will reproduce 23 signatures simultaneously, making the work of the city officials easy.

Immediately after the signing, a check will be presented for local banking to be used to complete Morgantown's last link of the system for disposal of all sanitary waste.

February 3, 1965, *Morgantown Post* article on the signing of the sewer revenue bonds. It's interesting to note that the only municipalities utilizing the plant were Star City and Morgantown. This continued from the time the plant was completed in 1968 to the 1980s when the federal government began requiring secondary treatment. By 1977 the EPA was making it clear that while they didn't care whether a single treatment plant served the county or not, they would only fund the most affordable option. Of course, that option was a single plant serving the county.

This was an extremely important moment in the history of Morgantown in that until then, raw sewage was simply dumped into the river and Deckers Creek (the Deckers Creek interceptor sewer was constructed by 1965). Prior to construction of the sewer interceptor, Deckers Creek was known as a "filth pot". This was especially true during dry months when raw sewage simply sat in the creek bed until rains washed it away (into the Mon River). The odor and flies were reportedly horrendous.

Despite the foulness, prior to the 1960s there was little local interest in constructing a sewer plant. In fact, the interceptors and the treatment plant were constructed in 1965 only because the State Water Resources Division was forcing the City to do it. And this was only because the state entered into an agreement decades earlier that created the Ohio Valley Water Sanitation Commission (Now known as [ORSANCO](#), and while officially formed in 1948, for all practical purposes the group was operating as early as the 1920s). This Commission, with the enforcement power given to it in the 1948 agreement, was requiring that sewage treatment occur for all municipalities along tributaries of the Ohio River.

Work complete!



Wondering what these devices are? Head to page 24 for details and additional photos!

Left: A two-way horizontal valve



Right: A drain line leading to Cobun Creek

Thanks to Dave Bennett for the photos!

Blast, Continued from Page 17

The next big step in sewage treatment occurred in 1972 with passage of the Clean Water Act. It was this act that provided the newly created Environmental Protection Agency with regulatory powers. Thus, the agency began pushing for secondary treatment (which the just constructed Star City plant did not provide). Naturally, Morgantown and Star City (they were the only municipalities using the plant at the time) were not too happy about this. This is especially true given that other nearby municipalities had taken little if any action on their sewer issues up to that point. They felt as if they were being singled out, mistreated and bullied.

However, the EPA cared not. They insisted that secondary treatment be accomplished. When Morgantown continued to balk at the idea, the EPA took them to court. The result was that on September 7, 1976, a U.S. Marshal appeared before Morgantown City Council regarding a suit filed against the state, city, council members and the Sanitary Board. According to the September 8, 1976, *The Dominion-Post*, the marshall "showed his badge to each council member and then presented a copy of the suit."

Council is served

By MARCELLA WILLIAMSON

A U.S. marshal was present at last night's Morgantown City Council meeting. He showed his badge to each council member and then presented a copy of the suit against the state, city, council members and Sanitary Board.

The suit was filed yesterday by U.S.

sewage treatment.

Opinions and comments on the suit and secondary sewage treatment controversy were voiced by several council members at last night's meeting.

First Ward Councilwoman Dorothy Comuntzis said she and Third Ward Councilman William Delardas are compiling information for a meeting with the governor tomorrow to dis-

Mrs. Comuntzis and Delardas were appointed by Mayor Earl McCartney to meet with the governor and federal representatives from the area to discuss the possibility of changing the law or getting 100 per cent funding for the project.

Seventh Ward Councilwoman Florence Merow told Mayor Mc-

Click the above newspaper clipping to view the actual article. Also, note that just below this article is one detailing the passage of an ordinance for construction of a \$9.8 million water treatment plant as well as another article on the sewer treatment issue. Click the article to read via Dropbox.

With the EPA agreeing to provide partial funding for plant upgrades to meet secondary treatment requirements- but would do so only in support of the most economical system that solved the area-wide sewage issue- local municipalities came together to plan a central system. The result was a significant upgrade to the original plant to include secondary treatment. This project was realized in 1984 when a ceremony was held for the opening of the new treatment plant. This ceremony was quite the affair, including local, state and federal dignitaries. Among those in attendance were individuals whose names still resonate across the city and state...

State delegate, West Virginia Secretary of State and WV State Treasurer A.J. Manchin



Senator James Randolph
Miss West Virginia
Senator Robert C. Byrd



Former city mayor, state delegate and county commissioner Florence Merrow





Visits, Continued from Page 16

On Thursday, February 23, members of the City of Morgantown and a representative of BOPARC visited the Flegal Dam Reservoir. The visit provided an update on the reservoir and an opportunity for City personnel to better estimate recreational possibilities at the reservoir.



MUB Board Chair Barbara Parsons and General Manager Mike McNulty share laughs with Morgantown Deputy Mayor and BOPARC Chair Danielle Trumble (left) and Morgantown Assistant City Manager Emily Muzzarelli (right).



MUB Board Treasurer Tom Witt points toward the reservoir as MUB Board Chair Barbara Parsons and Morgantown Deputy Mayor and BOPARC Chair Danielle Trumble look on.

Click a photo to view via Dropbox!

Cobun, Continued from Page 19



Max and Jerrad work through a rainy day to tie-in the new sanitary sewer line to the current system.

The MUB Family Grows!

We welcome...

Right: On November 9, 2022, Ken and Christy Hacker welcomed Kade. To the right is (from top to bottom) Kendall (13), Owen (9), Noah (5), and Kade.

Click a photo to view via Dropbox!



Below: On February 19, 2023, Cory and Joni Jones welcomed Lily Ann. Pictured below is the entire Jones family with 3-year-old daughter Adeline.



See *Babies*, Page 30

WTP WVU Tour

Throughout the year, team members at our water treatment plant conduct a number of tours for a variety of audiences. Here, WVU students tour the water treatment plant on February 22.



Above (left to right): Jake Fishel, Todd Queen and John Smerka discuss the water treatment process with a group of WVU students.

Below: Todd replaces the cover on a cluster of membrane filters.



Cobun Reservoir #1 Tie-In

It was a muddy day behind University Toyota off Don Knotts Boulevard. Following considerable excavation, MUB team members worked to tie-in Cobun Reservoir #1 (the current reservoir in White Park) to the new water line. This will bypass the line installed in the 1950s. The valve also includes a drain should the reservoir's volume need to be decreased. You can see the installed drain on page 17.



Above: Ricky Tennant prepares the area for delivery of a gate valve and pipe

Below: Ricky, Dave Bennett and Robbie White await as an excavator operated by Rodney Compton delivers the gate valve.

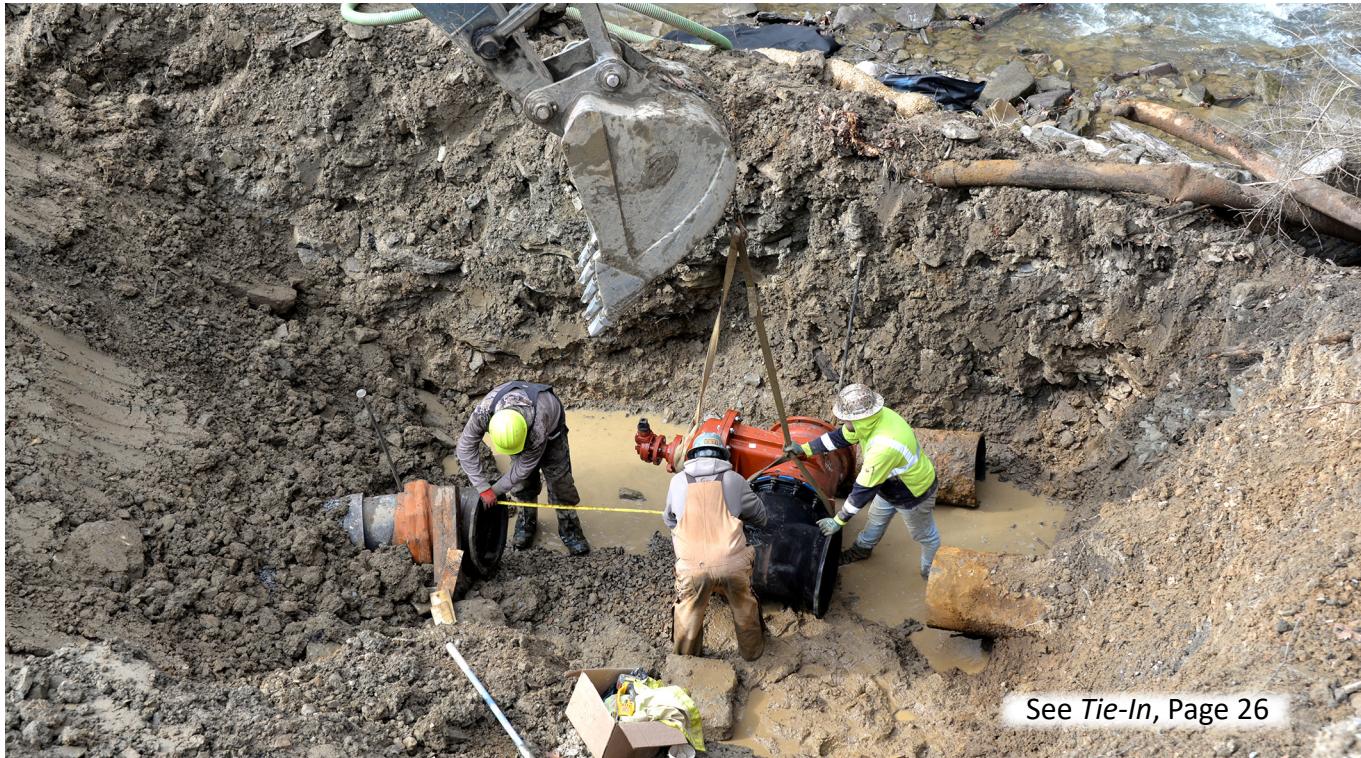


Tie-In, Continued from Page 24



Above: Ricky uses a bar for leverage as Dave and Robbie roll an old section of pipe out of the way to make room for the new valve.

Below: The three team members position the new valve then measure the length of pipe required to connect it to the new raw water line.



See *Tie-In*, Page 26



Dave cuts a piece of pipe to connect the valve to the new raw water line

Tie-In, Continued from Page 26



Above: Rodney focuses while operating an excavator while moving the valve assembly into place.

Below: Rodney moves the excavator toward the edge of the work area to deliver the new valve assembly as Ricky, Dave and Robbie follow after having secured it to the excavator.



Page 17 of this newsletter shows the valve installed. Great work by this crew!

Newest Team Members

Let's welcome the latest members to the MUB team!

Name	Location	Job Title	Fulltime Start Date
German, JD	SHOP	Laborer	6/3/2022
Widmer, Fred	WTP	Laborer	8/29/2022
Waggamon, Jacob	SHOP	Laborer	11/1/2022
Warnick, Casey	SHOP	Laborer	11/1/2022
Bolyard, Caitlyn	OFFICE	Office Assistant	10/17/2022
Singer, Yves	SV	MR	11/1/2022
Weber, James	WWTP	Maintenance	8/29/2022
Kyle, Joshua	SHOP	Laborer	11/1/2022
Taylor, Larry	SHOP	Laborer	12/1/2022
Kendall, Micheal	ENG	Engineering Technician	11/11/2022
Britton, Dara	OFFICE	Acct Payable Spec	12/14/2022
Dalton, Joshua	SHOP	Laborer	12/5/2022
Poldiak, Blake	WTP	Laborer	2/27/2022
LaClair, Michael	SHOP	Fleet Manager	1/3/2023
McCarty, David	WTP	Electrician	2/27/2023

Turtle Park Repairs

On the morning of February 16, MUB offices received notice via our online "contact us" portal from a concerned customer. The notice read...

I was at Turtle Park earlier this week and smelled sewage. I initially thought the smell may be from a combined sewer overflow, but it hadn't rained in a while. I did notice a pool of foamy water on the east boundary of the park (at the boundary with 1545 Woodland). Maybe there is an overflowing septic tank? There are a lot of kids there and wouldn't want them playing in wastewater. Thanks for any help you can provide.

Left: A section of the damaged sewer pipe

See *Turtle Park*, Page 29



Turtle Park, Continued from Page 28

Upon investigating the matter, we discovered that during construction of a playground, a pole supporting the slide was driven through a sewer line. We also found where a piece of rebar was driven through another section of the same sewer pipe.

Naturally, our crews quickly got to work repairing the breaks in the pipe.

This is an excellent example of how we work across the area to protect public health. It further emphasizes how protecting public health and the environment is everyone's responsibility.



Left: Sewage spills in the area where rebar entered the sewer line

Below: The playground is now open and safe for families to enjoy.



Babies, Continued from Page 22

Right: Lilith Anne, born February 27th to Derek and Page Davis

**Click a photo to
view via Dropbox!**



Left: Baylor, born December 22nd to Jacob and Madison Waggoner



Babies, Continued from Page 30



Left: Eloise Grace Fizer, born November 26 to Trevor Fizer and Rachel Shahan

Keep your eyes out!

There are two upcoming events to keep your eyes out for...

Spring Cleanup Day

This year we plan on targeting the Suncrest area for a cleanup as part of the WVDEP 'Make it Shine' event. We're close to nailing down the date; however, our goal is to host it during the workday. We'll get out additional information in the near future.

Red Cross Blood Drive

We planned to have already announced a blood drive; however, the American Red Cross canceled the date due to staff shortages. We're working on getting it rescheduled. Please know that the blood drive will be open to the public so keep your eyes out for details.



Anniversaries!

Start Date	Years of Service Completed
3/16/1992	31
3/14/1994	29
3/15/2001	22
3/7/2002	21
3/15/2004	19
3/22/2007	16
3/12/2012	11
3/4/2013	10
3/21/2014	9
3/16/2015	8
3/4/2019	4
3/18/2019	4
3/9/2020	3
3/14/2022	1
4/21/1986	36
4/7/2003	20
4/15/2013	10
4/21/2014	9
4/29/2016	7
4/23/2018	5
4/2/2019	4
4/24/2019	4
4/5/2021	2
4/12/2021	2
4/15/2021	2
4/4/2022	1
4/11/2022	1
5/31/1995	28
5/31/2000	23
5/31/2005	18
5/8/2006	17
5/29/2012	11
5/28/2013	10
5/30/2017	6
5/1/2019	4

March

April

May